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INPORTANEWS

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■ RICK HANSEN: 25th anniversary relay goes through Port and Wainfleet

Relay bears silver lining

HEIDI GRZESINA For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE -The Rick Hansen 25th Anniversary Relay arrived in Port Colborne, led by sledge hockey Paralympics bronze, silver and gold medallist legacy. Herve Lord

And he received loud cheers from youth as he made way to area schools. Students from St.

schools welcomed the relay as it rolled its way through town to city hall last week. Hansen's journey began in 1985, rolling through 34 countries and raising more than \$26 million for spinal cord research. Creating

a more inclusive world for everyone through the removal of accessibility barriers for disabled people is one of its greatest achievements, according to organizers, and is the reason for continuing the

tour began in Cape Spear, N.L., Aug. 24 and will end in Vancouver on May 22. "How can I say thank you Therese, Lakeshore how can I pay forward all Catholic and DeWitt Carter the help I got?" said Jamie Levchuk, managing director of the Rick Hansen Relay, describing Hansen's motivation to start this relay.

> do that now." See RELAY I page 2







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■ RELAY

'This was a really amazing experience'

FROM PAGE 1

Levchuk told a packed Guild Hall this is exactly what 7,000 participants carrying the Rick Hansen medal along each step of this anniversary journey are

"We can make a more accessible and inclusive world together, anything is possible." Austin Lacroix was one

of Port Colborne's medalbearers. Kim Lacroix spoke of her

"He is a great kid, only 10 years old, but really sensitive about other people's needs.

"He was really nervous but thrilled and honoured to be able to participate today," she said of his relay experience. "He's been very involved with cancer fundraising

through the CIBC and Terry Fox runs, he collects pop cans and volunteers at school for the breakfast club," she added. "Austin thought being

involved with the Rick Hansen relay would be a great opportunity to help others out." Penny Rominger works at Urgent Care Niagara as a

supervisor of eight. She sent a letter to the Rick Hansen Foundation describing her work environment in which people are seen and helped on a daily basis. The foundation sent back a letter asking her to be a medal-bearer.

"I wanted to participate this time, having regretted not participating in the past in events such as the Olympic Torch (Relay)," Rominger said.

"This was a really amazing experience, I was so excited and it was particularly nice to have family there, watching and supporting me." Mackenzie Bradman, 8

of Ridgeway was the medalbearer chosen to represent Ridgeway Public School. "Mackenzie has been involved (with the Rick Hansen

Foundation) for the last five years, since she was three years old," said her mother, Bey "She started riding in a wagon - those were our wheels in motion - and then

she started walking with me Christine Keith of Welland also carried the relay medal.

"We have a little boy, Carter, who is in a wheelchair and is severely disabled," she said of the child who at age five months was severely shaken

by a child-care provider Keith wrote to the Rick Hansen Foundation about participating in the relay and was accepted in August. The foundation also requested that another family member par-

ticipate, so big brother Kevin and sister Kennedy joined the Kevin, 12, has been highly involved in advocacy work with regards to Carter and is a great big brother, his mom

"We had a meeting of all the medal-bearers this morning. There were 14 of us in the room and we heard a lot about what the people in our community are doing to help one another. Keith said.

"We are all differencemakers. All of us, as a group, the difference we can make is quite extraordinary Thirteen-year-old Meghan

Kapellas was the medal-bearer representing DeWitt Carter Elementary School, Her father, Alex, was a carpenter until two years ago when he fell off a ladder and suffered a broken neck

"Rick is his (Alex's) inspiration," said Meghan, "I never really knew about Rick Hansen until my dad fell.

She tells of her father finding vital, life-sustaining inspiration in the story of Rick Hansen and how she took up the torch to support him in an effort to keep maximizing that

Other medal-bearers in Port Colborne included Bonnie Harris, Jessica Arcaro-Ingram, Austin Westin, Lee Macsai, Nancy Ionas, Andrea Gatt and Megan Kanyo.

strength of hope

The stops along the relay Thursday included Steele Street Elementary School and Port Colborne High School, then later William E. Brown School in Wainfleet, as the journey replicating Hansen's original Man in Motion Tour continues.

Athlete and cyclist Mark Ernstein, who carries the medal along long stretches of highway, accompanied the relay from Port Colbome through Wainfleet, sharing the honour with several medal-bearers along the

This is really special for me and I am really excited, Ernstein said.



HEIDI GRZESINA Tribune Photo

Bonnie Harris chats with students while she takes part in the Rick Hansen relay as it passes through Port Colborne.





HEIDI GRZESINA Tribune Photo

LEFT: Christine and Carter Keith take part in the Rick Hansen relay as it passes through Port Colborne.

RIGHT: Jeff Kanyo and daughter Megan, of William E. Brown School in Wainfleet, pose in front of the Rick Hansen relay bus as it takes a break in the township on Thursday.

portraits

■ ZAVITZ MILL: Mill survived War of 1812

Mill stones all that remain

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - Christian Zavitz's Grist Mill was captured three times during the War of 1812, but was the only mill in the Niagara Peninsula not torched by American forces

"There was an article in a Buffalo newspaper that said it wasn't burned despite (American) troops finding grain inside," said Don Anger, a local historian and member of Port Colborne-Wainfleet War of 1812 bicentennial committee.

Anger said the mill, captured all three times by Capt, Cyrenius Chapin, wasn't burned down because the grain inside was not part of British government stores. He said if it had been burned down, it would have created a great hardship for people in Sugarloaf Settlement, The once-important mill

- built in 1790 on the northeast side of the Eagle Marsh Drain and closed sometime 1834 - is long gone. However, two mill stones, used to grind grain to make flour, survived when the mill was torn down in the 1880s

One of those stones sits on the grounds of Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum. the other stone now sits on ton of the northwest hill at H.H Knoll Lakeview Park, several hundred metres from where it once stood, on a new pedestal with a new plaque. It is close to the intersection of Sugarloaf St. and Fielden Ave.

Monday, some members of the 1812 committee and museum staff, checked out the new pedestal and mill stone. which was installed last week. An official dedication for the new monument will take place on June 17, 2012

Anger said it looked great and exceed the concept he had of it

Brian Heaslip, chair of the 2012 committee, said the mill stone was taken from in front of Newport Centre, where it had sat since 1934, in July of 2010 and



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

the Zavitz Mill Memorial at H.H. Knoll Park on Monday. The mill stone once sat in front of what is now the Newport Centre and is all that is left of the former mill that stood during the War of 1812. From left are Tami Daoust, education programer at the museum, committee members Don and Virginia Anger, committee chair Brian Heaslip and committee member James Van Dillen.

was refurbished by Glenmount tion of the 200 year anniversary Memorials, in Gasline, Heaslip said the new monu

ment will be the focal point of a community celebration when it is dedicated next June. He said school programs and public speaking engagements will let people know all about what took place in Sugarloaf Settlement during the War of 1812.

"It's tremendously important to have a community celebraof the war" said Heaslin. The committee has been working on

the anniversary of the war planning for the last three years. "It's amazing to think that when this granite stone was made, there was no Port Colborne and no Wainfleet. There was such a small population in the area."

Heaslip said the settlement, which stretched from Point Abino to the Grand River, saw no more than 50 homes. Both Anger and Heaslip said

people don't know a lot of the history that took place during the War of 1812 in the area. Anger and his wife Virginia, former museum curator. travelled to Ottawa to search archives there for records of the war. During their research, they were able to find an old

photograph of the Zavitz mill,

which in addition to being captured three times, also housed British and Canadian forces.

Sugarloaf Settlement was the place soldiers retreated too when the Americans captured the fort at Fort Erie. Three Mennonite famers from the settlement actually helped bring the retreating soldiers to the area

And on Oct. 28, 1814, American soldier John Dixon. retreating back to Buffalo after a skirmish in Norfolk where British and Canadian soldiers were killed, was shot by a militia guard while trying to raid a store for ours near Zavitz Mill

"It was the last shot fired in the peninsula and the last death. said Anger, adding Dixon made it back to Buffalo before he died from his wounds

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INPORTANEWS

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innort@wellandtribune.ca Ken Kovama, publisher, general manager Dave Johnson, Inport News senior reporter



ourview

One step closer

Plans for a skateboard and BMX bike park in the city have been in the works for the past 14 years and now appear to be one step closer to reality.

Council recently approved a report submitted by the mayors youth advisory council (MYAC) to proceed with designs for the park by Land Inc.

Land Inc. will draw up designs for the Lock at Park facility at three price points: \$500,000, \$600,000 and \$700,000 and the MYAC, comprising youths aged 15 to 24, have pledged to fund

"They feel like they can pull it together and get it done and we will do whatever it takes to support them," said Ward 2

Coun. Yvon Doucet. Doucet expects Land Inc. to hold community meetings late December or early January. Designs are to be finished by February or early March and the park should be built by

Lock 8 Park was chosen as the location for the park because it is easily visible and accessible. The design will be done to eliminate "the criminal element," the city said. The park is welcome news in the community, especially

in light of the situation on West St. with skateboarders and cyclists congregating on the promenade and causing problems for local store owners, residents and visitors. We hope local youth embrace the park and that the MYAC can raise the funds it has pledged.

Improving water quality

orraine Bay is a sloppy mess, members of the Lorraine ■Bay Water Quality Group, told council recently. And the group wants something done to improve water quality

Phosphorus levels in the Lake Erie bay at the end of Lorraine Rd. are on the rise and are higher than they were in the 1970s when the group was successful in lowering levels. The phosphorus comes from Wignell, Michener and Beaverdam municipal drains which channel excess water from farmland in the area into the lake. The phosphorus is causing high amounts of seaweed and sludge.

The city said it will work with the group to come up with a solution to the problem, and we hope it works with local farmers as well Farmers need to treat their fields, but there may be ways

what they use can be reduced or changed. We dump far too much into the lake. Years ago, Lake Erie was declared dead, but slowly came

back to life. We hope that it isn't heading back toward where it once was

III I'VE BEEN THINKING

Safety in a multitude of counsellors

PASTOR IFFVA SAM Morgan's Point and Forks Road East United Churches

"Friends" whom we had known for a couple of years came to our house one day singing the praises of an investment opportunity that had fallen into their lan, "This could be the next Trivial Directists

Readers may be familiar with the humble beginnings of the popular game, which was funded by a small group of friends, all of whom ended up with huge financial gains as a result of their faith in Chris Abbott and Scott Hanev's brainchild

We were now being offered an opportunity to be part of a small group that could potentially strike it rich by investing a minimum of \$2,000 (which was a month's take-home pay for me at the time) in this "fail-proof" idea conceived by someone whom they trusted with all their heart as well as their savings.

My wife and I talked it over. She had some reservations. I did not. After all. these were our friends. After all, how often does an opportunity like this come along? After all, the idea was well thought-out, had potential ... even I could see it! She decided to go along with me. I went to the bank, got a loan and forked the money over. Now we were shareholders in the next great

Canadian success story. Fast forward one year. We get the news that the one whom my friends had

trusted had absconded with our savings and loans, never to be heard from again. We had lost every penny. To add insult to injury, the bank continued to make monthly demands for the rest of our "investment" plus interest.

Several months later, another friend who had heard about our failed attempt at instant success, asked us if we had been able to recoup any of our losses. As we talked with him, we discovered that he too had been approached about the same "opportunity." However, being a business analyst by profession, he had spotted the downside right away and politely declined the offer. And then he asked me, "Jeeva, why didn't you

pick up the phone and ask my opinion

before you decided to go ahead with

To be honest, the thought didn't even cross my mind. Obviously, I didn't know my Bible well enough at the time to realize that "there is safety in a multitude of counsellors." (Proverbs 24:6). I knew instinctively that "two are better than one (Ecclesiastes 4:12) and was content in the knowledge that my wife and I had made this decision together ... but we

could've done one better! I had total

access to the wisdom, knowledge and

discernment of my business analyst

buddy. By seeking his counsel, we could have spared ourselves the agony of losing \$2000. In the ensuing 20 years, I have noticed

that most of the "successful" people I have personally come to know in the business world surround themselves with a trusted group whose counsel they value and seek prior to making major decisions. Even those who are acknowledged as "visionaries" by their peers still need an "outside" perspective to make sure that they have not missed something in the periphery.

I can also give you countless examples

of those who ignored this principle and made choices that brought them perilously close to the precipice. All it would've taken was one simple phone call, one e-mail, one text message to a trusted friend who had no vested interest, a time of prayer with a pastor or equivalent leader of their faith community, or the scrutiny of a paid professional with expertise in that particular field. Yet, human nature being what it is,

most of us wait until we feel the heat before we will see the light! Now that you've read this column

though, you will never have to make the kind of mistakes made by yours truly and others. Instead, may you prosper by heeding this time-tested principle: "There is safety in a multitude of counsellors."

I'VE BEEN THINKING

It's time for the Heavenly weigh-in

GARY TOMIUCK Wainfleet Congregational Christian Church

f you ask most people if they thought they would go to Heaven when they died many of them would say "I'm a pretty good person, I'm not perfect but I'm trying the best

"If you were to place my good deeds on one side of the scale and my bad deeds on the other my good deeds would certainly tip in my favour."

Right? - Wrong! gain weight in your life and mine is God. I say that with

The only person who should reverence because God being

weight but one word for his Glory is Kabod. This means heaviness. We use similar language today we say that the teaching is heavy. That person has substance. Or he or she is a spiritual heavyweight. When God gains weight in your life you lose weight

a spirit does not have physical

spiritually speaking. We sometimes distort how we look on the outside. You probably stood in that hall of mirrors at Crystal Beach many years ago. You can look tall dark and handsome in these mirrors but as you look into your bathroom mirror

at home that image tells a But this is the same in

different story.

a spiritual realm as we compare ourselves to others its easy to feel smug if we compare ourselves with the so called low lifes of this world but we have to

compare ourselves with God. Then we can realize the things that can keep us out of Heaven.

1 - UNCONFESSED SIN Just one unconfessed sin from an unbeliever can keep one out of heaven not to mention the greatest sin of all refusing to believe in Gods own son who takes away the sin of the world:

2 — GOOD DEEDS divorced from God can keep people out of Heaven if they are not done in the name of

3 — RELIGIOUS GOOD DEEDS can also keep people out of Heaven if they attempt to earn or to buy or build their way to Heaven. Some charlatans are like slick and polished pied-pipers leading many astray. Pride and various scandals have rocked the Evangelical world and

who want nothing to do with these attitudes and lifestyles. When building the Tower of Babel they said, "Come let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top reaching to the heavens and let's make a name for ourselves.

given a bad name to many

See TOMIUCK | page 5

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TOMIUCK

The devil trembles

Isn't the Bible relevant? Isn't the Bible practical? Mankind is no different today as many who would build empires are filled with pride to make a name for themselves.

4 — UNREPENTANCE this will also keep you out of Heaven. There's no sacrifice for sin if people will not turn to the sinless savior and confess their sins; 5 - REPEATED WARNINGS will

keep you out of Heaven if they are not acted upon. The conscience becomes hardened when people reject the savior, turn their backs on God and resist the spirit. Daniel warned King Nebuchadnezzar that his kingdom would be taken from him if he did not repent. He did not heed those warnings (Dan 4:27);

5 - PROSCRASTINATION will keep you out of Heaven if you continually put off the claims of Christ and you say I will not make a decision. To not make a decision is a decision to not make a decision. We have no guarantees about tomorrow. But that very night King

Bellshazzar son of King was also killed instantly (Dan 5:30) 6 -PRIDE will keep you out of Heaven if you in your self-reliance boast in your accomplishments or wealth irrespective of the one who gave them to you in the first place. The rich

abundance of wealth that he desired to build bigger barns. And with no thought of the afterlife he said, "Take life easy; eat drink and be merry." And the Lord said "Thou fool how will your riches help you when your soul will be required of you tonight. Money is not evil it is the love of money that is the root of all evil:

7 - ENIOYING EXPERIENCES can keep you out of Heaven if they are not governed by the spirit of God or based in his word;

8 — JUST ACKNOWLEDGING GOD will keep you out of Heaven if it is merely a mental assent. The devil believes and trembles:

9 -PRAISING GOD can keep you out of Heaven if it is done with your mouth and not with your heart. Isaiah warned people in his time and also his time and also many in our time who worshipped God in this manner all across our land:

10 - ENIOYING AND PRACTICING SIN will surely keep you out of Heaven if it is enjoyed as a habitual lifestyle. What will get you into Heaven? It

only by freely receiving Christ and his works as he stands on the scales and bis weight alone balances us and gives us favour with God. This is the heavenly weigh-in. With

Christ we are weighed and not found wanting but without him we are all weighed but found wanting.



A workers climbs around steel beams on Port Colborne's new health and wellness centre on Monday. Mayor Vance Badawey will be taking a tour of the unnamed centre this week. Once completed, it will feature two NHL-size arenas, an aquatics centre, gym, fitness and change rooms, bocce courts and a running track. Outside will see a playground area, baseball diamonds and soccer fields.



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■ COMMUNITY

Central United appealed to weekend fair goers

LINDSAY COSTELLO For InPort News

hristmas is not only about receiving, but also

Central United Church is doing both this month as the congregation worked to hold its annual fundraiser and continues to support its charitable initiatives through the Mission and Outreach

A change of pace from its usual bazaar format, Saturday's fundraiser was billed as a Winter Fair and consisted of new elements to put attendees in the holiday spirit.

Although this event is usually held during the week, moving it to the weekend allowed for more interaction and traffic as many filled the hall to browse the craft tables and enjoy a hot meal of

homemade soup and rolls The church hall, which can be found at 30 Delhi St., was adorned with festive decor including a Christmas tree which matched the cheer seen on those helping out and those

stopping by. "I'm extremely pleased with the volume of people," said Darlene Sherk, who is chair of faith and programming of the

turnout New this year was a cookie walk where a variety of treats were sold by the pound. This endeavor complimented the

other attractions that included handmade crafts and knit items made by members of the congregation.

"We made personalized Christmas decorations," said Lorena Saxton, who helped with the craft table, adding they had received many orders and made more than 300 this

Also present was Gail Gieger, who is the chair of the Mission and Outreach committee at the church. She spoke to visitors of the MissionHeart initiative that supports global and local causes such as World Vision and Operation Mobilization through the sale of a hand

purpose concept provides buyers with a useful product and the assurance their dollars are making a difference and allocated to those in need through this not-for-profit initiative.

the church is also in the process of wrapping up their Operation Christmas Child

This Samaritan's Purse relief effort supports those less fortunate by bringing shoeboxes filled with gifts and necessities to children across

"They loved them," she said.

sanitizer approved by the World Health Organization The purchasing with a

In addition to this project, campaign.

the world who are in need "The children that receive them are so full of gratitude

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LIDNSAY COSTELLO InPort News Pho Lorena Saxton, Ruth Wright, Doreen Butler and Doris Spencer showcased handmade crafts and decorations during Central

United Church's Winter Fair on Nov. 19, where gifts and goodies were on sale and a hot lunch was served to visitors and joy," said Gleger, who a hand to this project and participates in the tradition. "That's the real joy to us," she Local groups and

although the deadline to submit a box is Nov. 27, there is still time to contact the church if interested in participating. The church will also hold its third annual clothing boutique tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. where free winter wear and other items and food will be available during this

outreach event. With plenty of opportunities to give back taking place this year, there are sure to be many brightened spirits this holiday



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njured hunter carried out of forest

DAVE JOHNSON InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - Burning wooden canal bumpers and brush,

plus two medical calls, kept Port Colborne firefighters busy recently. Chief Tom Cartwright said firefighters had been called to the area of Brookfield Rd. and Second

Concession to help a hunter who was down in a forested area on the morning of Saturday, Nov. 12.

They were also called into town for the report of a person struck by a car at

the same time as the injured hunter call. That call turned out to be for a person who fell off of a bicycle. Fire prevention officer Mike Bendia

was sent to the medical call in town, while Cartwright staved out in the rural area of the city for the hunter incident.

"I guess the hunter took a shot at a deer and the deer went down; he went to get out of his tree stand, lost his halance and fell out of the tree," the chief

On their way to the call, firefighters had been alerted by St. Catharines dispatch that one of the hunting party was unaware their fellow hunter had been hurt and to use caution. It was a concern of ours, but we

made sure we sent our guys in with someone that was appropriately dressed," he said, adding the other hun ter had learned of the incident when firefighters were on their way into the forested area.

Fortunately, the injured hunter was not too deep into the forest and they were able to use one of the fire service's pickups to get close to the

Once the hunter was put on a back-

board by Niagara EMS paramedics. they and firefighters had to walk less than 100 metres to the waiting pickup. From there, the man was taken to the road and transported to Welland

hospital. Later on Saturday, firefighters were back out for the report of wooden canal bumpers on fire in a wooded area behind the former Robin Hood

Cartwright said a contractor for St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corp. had been putting the bumpers used to keep ships off the concrete walls of the canal - in the area and someone had set them on fire.

"We were in the same area a number of times last year because people had dumped stuff and set it on fire

The chief said firefighters were back Sunday morning as the bumpers were back on fire. While there, the fire service received a second call in the same area. closer to the canal this time. "Someone set some brush and a tree

on fire. It was a busy day for us." diohnson@wellandtribune.ca





Door knob hangers to keep community safe

ALLAN BENNER InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - Ir's a relatively simple idea but it could go a long way towards making the community a lot safer, says Jack O'Neil.

Thousands of bright green doorknob hangers are being mailed to every home in Port Colborne, tucked into water bills being sent out at the end of the month. Safe Communities Port

Colborne is asking residents to put those tags on their outside door handles before they go to bed at night, and remove them before 11 a.m. the next morning. If neighbours see the tags still hanging there later in the day. it's an indication that something could be wrong.

We're really hoping it is effective for our people," says O'Neil, a volunteer in the Niagara Gatekeepers Program who first came up with the idea for the doorknob hangers.

"It's a great chance, as far as I'm concerned, for neighbours to get to know your neighbour and this way you

If the window blinds aren't up by 11 a.m., I make a phone call and ask, 'Are you OK."

volunteer in Niagara Gatekeeprs Program

can help each other out," he

adds. Although it's likely that some people might just forget to remove the tags in the morning, Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badawey says it's "better safe than sorry." And if a passing neighbour knocks on a door to make sure people there are OK, there's no harm done. "There might be time for a

coffee," he says with a laugh. "But if there's one time they didn't forget and they may be in trouble, then it's well worth it."

O'Neil says he's been doing something similar in his own neighbourhood, asking neighbours to make sure they pulled up their window blinds every morning.

"If the window blinds aren't up by 11 a.m., I make a phone call and ask. 'Are you OK?' I have three neighbours like this, and that's how I check them out every morning.

He says similar initiatives using doorknob hangers are being used in seniors' apartment buildings. Hepresented the idea to Safe Communities Port Colborne and the organization chose to extend the program throughout the city, with sponsorship from Boggio Pharmacy, the Port Colborne fire department and city hall.

"If there are problems or suspected problems, go with your gut because most times if you feel there is a problem there probably is." the mayor says.

People who want a hanger and did not receive one can call 905-834-9289.



ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo

From left are Jack O'Neil from the Gatekeepers Program, Mayor Vance Badawey



Nature's #1 Flu Medicine

If you've ever had the flu, perhaps you can relate to the saying ... "I feel like like I've been hit by a truck!" That's how people often describe the effects of influenza - the flu



It usually starts with an aching body and a sore throat--and you know a full-blown bout of the flu is on the way. These symptoms are quickly followed by headache, fatigue, aches and pains, stuffy nose, weakness, sneezing, sore throat, cough, fever and overall discomfort. Experts say the average Canadian suffers through 3 to 4 colds every season (children average about 9). A standard bout of flu however, generally lasts about a week but often goes on for 2 weeks or more.

"People with the flu say they feel like they could die," says Dr. Claire Pomroy, Chief of Infectious Diseases at the University of Kentucky Medical Centre..."and in fact, people do die!" About 2000 Canadians are felled by the flu each year, though most are elderly or infirm.

Although the flu is spread year round, fall and winter are particularly risky times. Contrary to conventional wisdom, flu outbreaks have nothing to do with the temperature outside. Rather, it's because the lousy weather forces people to spend time

indoors with ailing family and colleagues. This closeness increases transmission via direct contact and by vapourized drops from coughing and sneezing.

Oscillococcinum (Oscillo for short) - is the #1 selling homeopathic flu remedy in Europe, the USA and Canada. For over 40 years, it has been recognized as an effective natural remedy to relieve fevers, chills, body aches, pains and other symptoms caused by the flu. Oscillo works by stimulating the body's own defense mechanisms to resist the flu's onslaught.

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Information is provided for reference only. For specific health issues consult your local natural health practitioner.

INPORT NEWS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2011





EDDIE CHAU Staff Pho Cindi Pohonick-Tailbot has decked out her Tennessee Ave. home in the holiday spirit. The Port Colborne home is the featured attraction in the fourth annual Winter Celebration House Tour.





Hospital wishes upon a star

EDDIE CHAU InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - As the McKay Public School choir warmed up the crowd of about 50 people outside Port Colbome hospital last Thursday night, sudden hues of red, gold and green lightened the darkened

The children sing as 610 CKTB host Tim Denis and Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badawey pushed the button to kick off the local hospital foundation's annual Ribbon of Lights

In its 20th year, the Ribbon of Lights campaign is a major fundraiser for the hospital raising money to purchase new equipment

Debbie Spraggett, administra tor of the Port Colbome Hospital Foundation, said the hospital needs a new nurse calling bell system for the complex continuing care floors. That costs

"Our next big thing to get is an eye slit lamp for urgent care," Spragett said The foundation has a year-

long fundraising goal of more There is a great need to fundraise, said hospital foundation

chair Carmela Rulli, noting the hospital does not receive government funding for equipment.

The Ribbon of Lights allows donors to purchase lights or strands in memory of loved ones or to honour someone special. Donors names will be memorialized in The Tribune Lights can be purchased for

\$25 each, or \$150 for a string of lights. A donation of \$500 gets a light star; \$1,000 gets a large star. To donate call the Port Colborne Hospital Foundation office at 905-834-4501 ext.



EDDIE CHAU Staff Photo CKTB morning man Tim Denis and Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badawey hit the switch outside Port Colborne hospital to kick off Port Colborne Hospital Foundation's Ribbon of Light's campaign Thursday night, (See other photo page 12)



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EDDIE CHAU Staff Photo
The McKay Public School choir sings Christmas carols to greet
guests outside Port Colborne Hospital Thursday night.





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■ LOCATION: Lock 8 Park chosen at site

Skateboard, BMX park plan shifts gears

VICTORIA GRAY InPort News Staff PORT COLBORNE — Port

Colborne proves it's not just a retirement community.

Last week, council approved a report submitted by the mayors youth advisory council (MYAC) to proceed with designs for a skateboard and BMX bike park by Land Inc.

Mayor Vance Badawey said plans have been in the works since 1997 and he is glad to finally see the project's end on the horizon.

"It's 11 years later and we are finally getting it together," he said. "The front doors are open to all ages and these investments make that known."

Council approved plans

to allow Land Inc. to draw up designs for the Lock at Park facility at three price points: \$500,000, \$600,000 and \$700,000. Ward 2 Coun. Yvon

Doucet, who sits on MYAC, said the council comprising youths aged 15 to 24 have spearheaded the skatepark project and have pledged to fund 10% of the park.
"They feel like they can

"They feel like they can pull it together and get it done and we will do whatever it takes to support them," he said.

The company to draw designs was chosen by the departments of engineering and parks and recreation with MYAC's specifications, he said.

"When they design it they will design it specifically to make sure the criminal element is minimized," Doucet

"(MYAC) picked Lock 8 because it's so visible, so out in the open, it will limit crime and police have easy access as well. This was from them. Your 15-, 16-, 17-and 18-year-olds — they wanted to make sure it was viable and easily assessable for that reason."

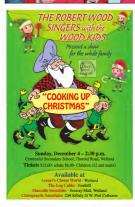
Doucet expects Land Inc. to hold community meetings late December or early January. Designs are to be finished by February or early March and the park should be built by August.

"It's an aggressive schedule and may not work. There are still a lot of decisions to be made by council," he sald.

"But we have to make sure we do this right the first time so we are not having to replace things before they should be."

vgray@wellandtribune.ca





Club's story hand in hand with arena

EDDIE CHAU InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - The history of Club Frontenac and the Teeder Kennedy Youth Arena go hand in "It's like salt and pepper,"

said Club Frontenac president Yves Cloutier. "They go together." For as long as the Teeder

Kennedy Youth Arena was open in Port Colborne, Club Frontenac's presence in the facility has been dominant. tional teams. Since the arena's opening in 1974 the club has been a prominent fixture as the city's top renter of ice time. "It was like a second

home to me," Cloutier said. "Whether I played hockey or worked there with my father. I was always there." Club Frontenac was

formed in 1970 by Flo Cloutier as a French-only hockey league in Port

Colborne. At the time to join the league individuals had to speak French or be married to a spouse that spoke the language. The club

originally consisted of four "A" league teams - Queen's Hotel, The Flyers, Ritz Hotel and Star Hotel The French-only league

would remain until 1974 when Club Frontenac was open to everyone looking to play hockey. With the increased number of players the league added two addi-"There was such a

demand. Everyone wanted to play," Cloutier said. "There was no recreational hockey in town until Club Frontenac was formed." It was around the same

time the club, which had been playing at the West Side Arena, moved its oper-

ations to the new youth "There was a lot of hockey See FRONTENAC | page 14

played in that arena." Cloutier said. "Once the league started it blossomed

up from there! Cloutier noted there were distinct differences between the rinks of the west and east side arenas. While the

width of both rinks were the same, he said the length was slightly longer at the youth arena Among the users of the arena besides Club

Frontenac was Golden Puck. the house league hockey tournament organized by Port Colborne Minor Hockey. The two leagues along with the City of Port Colborne combined its efforts to purchase the large clock for the arena.

Through its fundraising from admission proceeds, Club Frontenac paid for the installation of glass along the boards.



Supplied Photo

In this Tribune photo from 1978, Gary Wintle of Woelfle's Insurance makes the save on Port Colborne Catering's Flo Cloutier during the Club Frontenac playoffs that year. During the playoffs Port Colborne Catering claimed the throne by besting Woelfle's Insurance in an overtime victory

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FRONTENAC

'People hanging from the rafters'

FROM PAGE 13

Throughout the first decade of operation at the arena the club had seen its number of teams increase to more than eight teams in six different league divisions with hockey action Wednesday to Saturday evenings and all day play on Sunday.

The arena itself has been the site of many hockey championship tournaments. As a youngster, Cloutier remembered playing as a Port Colborne Sailors participating in the All-Ontario championship final against South London in the 1970s.

It was probably the most packed I've seen it" Cloutier said "The benches around the rink were filed. There were people hanging from the rafters. It was quite an experience."

Throughout the years membership at Club

Frontenac expanded to outside of Port Colborne with players traveling from all over the golden horseshoe and even south of the border from Buffalo,

With all the time Club Frontenac spent in the youth arena the organization believed it could run the administration of the facility. In 1996 the organization approached city

council with the concept, stating it would minimize operation costs of the area while passing the savings to Club Frontenac's members

Unfortunately council turned down the idea. The club made up for shout 80% of the arena's ice time over the years. with total ice rental costs in the '70s estimated at about \$12,000. Throughout the years that amount would steadily

increase Cloutier said.

"In the past nine years we roughly spent \$80,000 easily in rental fees." he

With the demolition of the Teeder Kennedy Youth Arena this past spring Club Frontenac was left temporarily without a home. The club currently shares ice time at the West Side Arena with minor hockey, the Port Colborne Pirates and other user

Cloutier said with the limited time at the arena a few sacrifices had to be made, including the temporary halt of a league for a season or two. Once the new arena is constructed on the east side by next fall, Cloutier is positive Club Frontenac's legacy will continue to thrive "Club Frontenac's his-

tory was part of the Teeder Kennedy Arena," he said "It will now be part of the new arena as well

III HITTING THE ROAD



LINDSAY COSTELLO Tribune Photo

Display & Photo Deadline

Dec 19 at 1 p.m.

Dec 20 at 1 p.m.

Dec 21 at 1 p.m.

Dec 22 at 1 p.m.

Dec 22 at 1 p.m. Dec 22 at 1 p.m.

Dec 22 at 1 p.m. Dec 27 at 1 p.m.

Dec 28 at 1 p.m.

Dec 29 at 1 p.m.

Dec 29 at 1 p.m.

Lakeshore Catholic High School's music department is hitting the road this month. Concerts will be performed for students at each of Lakeshore's nine feeder schools. The hour-long performance is filled with song and dance and showcases the school's various musical endeavors, including its iazz band, rock band and glee club. Trumpet player Chris Madronich performs during a concert at St. John Bosco on Thursday.

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TRIBUNE Publication Date Word Ad Deadline Dec 21 Dec 20 at 1 p.m. Dec 22 Dec 21 at 1 p.m. Dec 23 Dec 22 at 1 p.m. Dec 24 Dec 23 at 1 p.m. Dec 23 at 10 a m

Dec 26 Dec 27 Dec 23 at 10 a.m. Dec 28 Dec 27 at 1 p.m. Dec 29 Dec 28 at 1 p.m. Dec 30 Dec 29 at 1 p.m. Dec 31 Dec 30 at 10 a.m. Dec 30 at 1 p.m.

PELHAM NEWS & INPORT - word and display Publication Date Deadline

Dec 23 Dec 16 at 10 a.m. Dec 30 Dec 23 at 10 a.m.

CELEBRATIONS PAGE Deadline Publication Date

Dec 24 Dec 19 at 1 p.m. Dec 27 at 10a.m.

Tribune Office will be closed December 26, 2011 and January 2, 2012.

PORT COLBORNE

www.portcolborne.ca Tel: 905-835-2900 66 Charlotte Street Port Colborne, ON L3K 3C8 email: newsletter@portcolborne.ca CITYHAILNE

A Newsletter written by Staff for the Residents of Port Colborne

NOVEMBER 2011

SSUE

PAGE 2

- Museum Construction Community Bulletin on
- PAGE 3

Don't be fooled by Wate Purification Equipment

PAGE 4 fourism and Retail

- Construction on Mair Street is Complete
- Community
- PAGE 5 Port Colborne Health and Wellness Llodate
- Brick Campaign

PAGE 6 13th Annual Sportsfer Skateboard BMX Park

PAGE 7



Saturday, December 3

Port Colborne's Annual **Lighted Santa Claus Parade**

Watch as the streets are illuminated by the annual Port Colborne Santa Claus Parade, highlighting the joy and life of Christmas for children of all ages. Beginning at 6:30 p.m., the parade will start at Port Colborne High School and travel south on Steele Street to Clarence Street where it continues east along Clarence Street to West Street. Making its way south on West Street to Charlotte Street, the parade will then travel west along Charlotte Street to end in the Market Square, in front of City Hall. Children are welcome to visit with Santa in the lobby of City Hall and enjoy hot chocolate and Timbits

For more information, please contact Allaina Kane at 905-834-1668 or visit www.portcolborne.ca.



Mrs. Claus in the Park

On Friday, December 2, 2011 the Gateway BIA has invited Mrs. Claus to Lock 8 Park to read to the children and have them write letters to Santa. Mrs. Claus will be there from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with Tim Horton's providing hot chocolate and Timbits for everyone.

35th Grand Old Christmas Festival Sunday, December 4th, 12 to 4 p.m.



it with friends and family during the 35th Grand Old Christmas Festival at the Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum on Sunday, December 4th. Step back in time and tour through the heritage village, traditionally decorated for the holidays with evergreen boughs, ribbons and berries. Linger over traditional afternoon tea. which includes homemade Christmas pudding and sauce. Sin tea out of fine hone china and relax with those who are nearest and dearest at Arabella's Edwardian Tea Room. The smell of roasted chestnuts, hot apple cider, caramel apples, and sausage on a bun by Pigroast Promotions will lead you throughout the active heritage buildings. Dip candles, saw a log, brand a wooden cookie, and print a Christmas card. Visit with our blacksmith, interpreters and whisper in Santa's ear beside a crackling fireplace. Take a ride around the block by horse and carriage. Visit the L.R. Wilson Heritage Research Archives where Melinda Mitterhauser will present her winning Historica project on Arabella Williams. While you are there, you can shop for the bookworms in your life. In the Williams house, step back in time to experience the holiday ambiance of a Christmas in the country, where it was encouraged to use ingenuity to fashion handmade gifts that were thrifty, pragmatic and attractive for friends and family.

Come and enjoy Christmas pudding and sauce at Arabella's Tea Room during Shoppers Week from December 5th to the 10th, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Only \$4.00 per serving.

The Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum will be participating in "Winter Celebration", the Fourth Annual House Tour in Port Colborne on November 26th from 1-5 n m

Holiday Hours at City Hall

City Hall will close for the holidays at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, December 23rd and will reopen on Tuesday, January 3rd at 8:30 a.m. Bill payments can be dropped in the payment box (no cash please). For public works emergencies, please call 905-835-5079.

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Port Colborne Public Library 310 King Street Port Colborne, ON L3K 4H1 www.portcolbornelibrary.org Phone: 905-834-6512 Fax: 905-835-5775

email: library@portcolborne.ca Hours of Service

Hours of Service Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 10 a.m - 8 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Holiday Hours
Closed: 5at., December 24, 2011 to Wed.,
December 28, 2011.
Open: Thurs., December 29, 2011 to Sat.,
December 31, 2011.

Closed: Mon., January 2, 2012.

Please note that the Library will be closed on Wednesday, November 30, 2011 for Staff

Art in the Library... Featuring Work by Local Artists and Artisans: On display in the Atrium until January 15, 2012: "Paintings by Eta."

Download Free e-Books to your IPad, IPhone, IPod Touch, Kobo or Sony Reader! All you need is a valid Port Colborne Public Library card and PIN. Call the Library at 905-834-6512 for more information or to register in one of our upcoming free seminars on how to download free books. Download aids are also available online at

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a valid library card and a PIN. Call 905-834-6512 for

PROGRAMMING FOR ADULTS

November 25 to December 15, 2011
Bring us your new mittens, hats, gloves and scarves and
we'll place them on our annual Mitten Tree for Coats

for Kids and Families. Non-perishable food donations for Port Cares will also be accepted at the Library. SHOPPERS DEUG MART PRESENTS..."PUTTIN' ON THE GAITZ" WITH COSMETICIAN ELANA MONDS Thursday, December 1, 2011, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. For ages 14and up. Free samples and demonstration.

Learn easy makeup techniques and dazzle this holiday season.

ONE-ON-ONE COMPUTER LESSONS

Saturday mornings at the Library

Lessons geared toward your interest. Topics available include: email, Facebook, Twitter, blogging, creating simple websites, and more! Cost is \$10.00 per person per lesson. Pre-registration required. Book your appointment today!

Presented the first Wednesday of the month, September to June, at 1:30 p.m. Free admission! Free refreshments! WII BOWLING FOR SENIORS Presented the third Wednesday of the month,

September to June, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Join us for an afternoon of fun, low-impact exercise, and a bit of friendly competition. Free admission. Free refreshments.

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Keit instructive Viola fretz. For more information on the
Kritting Club schedule of classes or to join the Kritters'
Club, call Viola 9:05-835-9373.
RISE AND SHINE YOGA CLASSES
Wechesday mornings, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

With instructor Heather Jones of Santosha Studio for Yoga and Healing. All levels. For more information, or to register for classes, call Heather at 905-932-6061.

lay, Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. PROGRAMMING FOR CHILDREN

Tot Time with Stacey (for ages 2 to 4)
Thursdays, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., December 1 & 15
Stories, crafts & games, for children ages 2 to 4 with
their parents/caregivers. Cost & \$1.00 per child per

week. Pre-register at the Library.
Craft-Tastic! Kids Crafts with Stace;
(for ages 6 to 12)
Presented the third Monday of the month
4:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Calling all kids! Come to the Library for fun

seasonally-themed crafts! Cost is \$3.00 per child. Pre-register at the Library. Raiders of the Library (for ages 6 and up) Presented the first Monday of the month, 4:00

Soo p.m.

Do you have a favourite children's book or book series? Join us for an hour of book-themed funl Dress up as your favourite character from the book of the month, and join us for themed crafts sparks.

and other activities. Cost is \$2.00 per child. Preregister.

(iii Club! (for ages 12 & up)

Presented the fourth Monday of the month.

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Sing and rock out with your favourite McKinley
High Glee Club members in our Wii Glee Club,
Free! Pre-projete at the Library.



Have a



CITY HALL NEWS

th
Marge McAvoy, Finance Chairman who launched the Corporate
Drive looks over Accessibility Upgrade plans.

You may have noticed that the Museum has had construction crews on site over the last month. With the help of the Office for Disability issues, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada forant through the Enabling Accessibility Fund (E.A.F.) and corporate and private donations, the Museum will be improving our accessibility.

The Soard of Management and staff are thrilled with the project and our potential ability to reach even more of the community, included in the project are improvements to the Williams' Home Main Museum such as ramp, widened doorways, improved reception, and accessible washroom. This project end date is December 31st so next season should really see the benefits of this improve-

Corporate and individual donors who wish to assist the Musum's current Corporate Fundraising Campaign will receive an income tax receipt for donations of \$20 or more, and a Sustaining Membership Certificate. Just stop in with your donation to 280 King Street 1-25 daily or all 905-834-760.

Attention Community Groups: Community Bulletin Board feature added to City Website A Community Bulletin Board calendar has been added to the

City of Port Colionne's website. It can be found under the Events section of the website. This feature allows local non-profit organizations, service groups, social and recreational clubs to add their fundralsing events to the City's website.

An online fillable form is provided onto which the organization

An online fillable form is provided onto which the organization can describe the event and details. A start date, end date, and time is provided as well as a message box for a detailed description and link to a website.

The submitted event is sent to our website administrator to approve for eligibility and content. Please allow enough time prior to your event to ensure it is posted to the website. Once the event is submitted, it can be approved and will appear online. This new feature will keep residents and visitors informed

of all your great upcoming events on the Community Bulletin Board! The direct link to the Community Bulletin Board is:

The direct link to the Community Bulletin Board is: http://www.portcolborne.ca/page/community-bulletin

City of Port Colborne Social Media Channels

If you frequent Facebook or YouTube, look us up!
Visit our channels to interact with other residents of Niagara and
keep up on local happenings, news and events. Just click "Like"

to join.

Visit: http://www.facebook.com/cityofportcolborne

Some of our events are recorded and posted to YouTube. Check
out our channel to see what is happening in Port Colbornel Sub-

scribe to see our new videos.

Visit: http://www.voutube.com/citvofportcolborne



Unattended cooking is the numbe one cause of home fires.
Pay close attention when you're cooking and stay in the kitchen.





PAGE 3

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DON'T BE FOOLED by "QUESTIONABLE" WATER PURIFICATION EQUIPMENT SALES TACTICS

One of our neighbouring municipalities is again receiving calls from some of their water customers that they have been approached by door-to-door salespersons attempting to sell them reverse osmosis water purification systems

A portion of the sales presentation may include an in-home "jam jar purity test" with the use of a "precipitator". As well the salesperson may conduct an in-home "total dissolved salts"

Through these tests, the salesperson is attempting to demonstrate that your municipal water supply is unsafe for human consumption.

We have provided pictures of these in-home "tests" and explained how these sales tactics utilized do absolutely nothing to demonstrate that your water is unsafe.

The City of Port Colborne's drinking water continues to meet the stringent water quality standards of the Province of OnLicensed Water Operator to conduct a site visit and collect a water sample within their home can call 905-835-5079 to schedule an appointment.

If you have any questions about the information provided in this article, please contact Darlene Suddard, Water/Wastewater Compliance Coordinator at 905-835-2900 ext, 212 or via e-mail at darlenesuddard@portcolborne.ca

Be Aware of this Water Testing Scam



Sales people from various water purifier companies of late are making use of a so called "Precipitator" or Jam Jar Purity Test to supposedly prove that all water except for the water treated by their purification equipment is impure and subsequently unsafe for human consumption. Read below to get the full picture.

The Precipitator or Jam Jar Test is basically a very crude, rudimentary. electrical circuit, similar to a car battery or scientifically known as an electrochemical circuit. When used as a so-called "Precipitator" it gives the customer the impression that the water is not safe to drink. It does this by precipitating the natural salts into the water which appear as a brown "goo", which makes the water look awfully dirty.

Why does the water change colour?

To explain why tap water changes colour when reverse osmosis (RO) water does not, it is essential to understand the difference between tap water and RO water, and what the "Precipitator" is doing to the water:

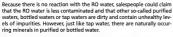
RO Water

- . RO water contains very little to no minerals, as a result, it will not conduct electricity as minerals are required to be present in the water in order to conduct electricity.
- Without the ability to conduct electricity, none of the chemical reactions can occur, therefore, no discolouration will be visible in the RO water.

Tap Water

- . Contains naturally occurring minerals and salts which are beneficial to human health.
- . These minerals and salts allow electricity to flow as current through the water, which allows the precipitation and an electrochemical reaction to take place, which discolours the water. The change in colour can show up as a grey precipitate or brown sludge. This colour change is normal and can be expected.

WHAT YOU MAY BE TOLD ...



DO NOT BE FOOLED OR PERSUADED THAT THIS COLOUR CHANGE IS AN INDICATION OF IMPURITIES OR "TOXINS" IN THE WATER!

The "TDS" Test



Another test that is often used by some salespeople to "show" that tap water is "not safe", is the TDS Test, This test, conducted with a handheld device, measures the amount of Total Dissolved Salts (TDS) in the water. When conducting this test, the tap water could have a higher TDS level than the sample of RO water that the salesperson brings with them. The salesperson

then uses this information to state that the tap water is unsafe, when in reality, it only means that there are more minerals in the tap water.

The Role Of Total Dissolved Salts (TDS) In Assessment Of Water Quality

The only information obtained from a TDS meter is, as the name implies, the following:

- . TDS is a measure of the Total Dissolved Salts in the water and sometimes also incorrectly stated as Total Dissolved Solids. The correct scientific definition of the TDS measurement is in fact the determination of the Total Dissolved Salts.
- The important information obtained from this analytical measurement is very plain and simple: how much mineral salt
- is dissolved in the water. . No other information can be obtained or deduced from the
- simple TDS analytical test. Please take note that TDS is but one of the 20 analytical

parameters required to gauge the quality of a water source. The problem with the salespeople is that they say that the TDS meter is showing you that the water is dirty, impure (in the sense of unsafe to drink) which is simply not true.





The "testing" device: The Precipitato





glasses

CITY HALL NEWS

Tourism and retail sectors plan to build upon strong summer season

Investments in downtown streetscaping, festivals & events seen as key factors to future growth and success

With recent construction and infrastructure upgrade projects nearing completion, Port Colborne was truly open for business this summer, and several local business operators noticed an increase in

business Gail Todd, proprietor of Something Else, at the corner of Clarence Street and historic West Street in downtown Port Colborne had a strong first year of business. "Downtown Port Colborne is a fabulous location. Since opening in June, I have had a constant flow of people through my store, from across Niagara and around the world."

Gail credits the location of downtown Port Colborne as a cultural and shopping destination, as well as Port Colborne festivals, including Canal Days, as a key reason in the success of her business. "We have the historic and scenic Welland Canal along West Street: live theatre: a fantastic farm-

ers' market on Friday mornings: a great museum and flourishing arts scene, not to mention some of the best shopping and restaurants in Niagara.

This is why I chose Port Colborne as the location for Something Else." Talwood Manor Bed and Breakfast, one of Port Colborne's outstanding tourist accommodations, also noticed a strong increase in business over the previous summer. Despite a wet start to the summer, owner Judith Boroniec reported record highs for overnight stays during the month of June, followed by a strong July and August, Talwood Manor is located across the street from Showboat Festival Theatre, which has recently wrapped up a success-

ful 25th summer season that attracted theatregoers from across Southern Ontario and Western Business owners on Main Street West in Port Col-

borne reported strong business now that roadwork has finished. The construction was part of a \$5.5 million investment in streetscaping and beautification to enhance visitors' experiences while shopping and passing through Port Colborne's Gateway

District "Main Street was a busy place this summer, with the revitalization project and construction for most of the season. Although the roads were closed, and the bridge was closed for many days during that time, we continued to thrive in this great city." said Mike Sloat, President of the Port Colborne-Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce, "Between May and October, our business was up 15% over 2010. The feedback from customers about the street improvements was fantastic! Even when the street was closed, customers still came, proving it's worth the drive to Port Colhorne "

After a few softer seasons in the tourism industry, Stephen Thompson, General Manager of Economic Development, Tourism & Marketing, was pleased to see renewed confidence in the city's retail and tourism sectors, "Retail and tourism are the largest sectors for employment in Port Colborne. The City certainly recognizes this with the Main Street West revitalization, completed this summer and the continued property improvement grants being offered along Main Street and in downtown Port Colborne." He said that the city has seen a considerable amount of investments in these shopping districts, with several more to come. "Port Colborne is truly becoming recognized as a destination for shoppers, tourists, retailers, and investors in Niagara. The success that our tourism and retail sectors have had this year creates a solid foundation for

New York CONSTRUCTION ON MAIN STREET IS COMPLETE!

The construction on Main Street is over! Check out these amazing before and after shots of the area. Main Street is now a more













Community Improvement Plan Incentive Funding Available!

building on in the years to come."

Olde Humberstone Main Street

Community Improvement Plan With the creation of the Port Colborne Gateway Business Improvement Area, encompassing the Olde Humberstone Main Street Area, the City is still accepting applications for the various Olde Humberstone Main Street CIP incentive programs. The Application and incentive program information is available on the City's website at www.portcolborne.ca/page/Main_Street_CIP or in hard copy at City Hall.

Downtown Central Business District Community Improvement Plan

With the completion of the Downtown CBD CIP, Urban Design Strategy and Traffic Study, the City is still accepting applications for the various Downtown CBD CIP incentive programs. Program Guides and Applications can be found on the City's website at: www.portcolborne.ca/page/Downtown_CBD_CIP or in hard copy at City Hall.

Brownfield Strategy / Community Improvement Plan Brownfields are abandoned, idled or underused industrial and commercial properties where redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. The CIP outlines specific municipal

programs and actions designed to encourage private sector investment in cleaning up and redeveloping brownfield sites. The City is still accepting applications for the various Brownfield CIP incentive programs. Program Guides and Applications can be found on the City's website at: www.portcolborne.ca/page/brownfields_CIP or in hard copy at City Hall.

The City is now receiving applications for the 2012 budget year. All applications are on a first come first served basis and dependant on the amount of funding available.

For information on any of the above noted incentive Programs, please contact Lindsay Richardson, Community/Policy Planner at lindsayrichardson@portcolborne.ca or at 905-895-2901 ext. 129 to make an application or for more information on the available funding opportunities.

East Waterfront Community Improvement Plan

The ongoing study of the East Waterfront is leading to the development of a long term vision for the East Waterfront area of the City. Encompassing the industrial lands along the canal, the abutting neighborhood and Nickel Beach area, the proposed long term vision for the East Waterfront responds to the opportunities for improvements and supports the community's goals for the area. It calls for green open spaces and streets that will create the setting for neighborhood renewal, infill development and a variety of lakefront experiences. For more information on the development of the East Waterfront CIP, please check the City's website at http://www.portcolborne.ca/page/ waterfront_cip. There will be a public meeting regarding the East Waterfront CIP on November 28, 2011 at 6:30 pm in Council Chambers. Questions or comments regarding this CIP can be directed to Lindsay Richardson, Community/Policy Planner for the City of Port Colborne at lindsayrichardson@portcolborne.ca or 905-835-2901 ext. 129.

PAGE 5



Please sponsor a Brick on the Dedication Walkway.

Help build a bright future!



ADD YOUR MESSAGE TO THE WALKWAY TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT! Honour a special person • Commemorate an Anniversary • Pay tribute to the Memory of someone • Show the support of your Service Club, your Church, your School, your Team • Add your Family Name to the walkway



Contact Person: Sandy Pilot Community Partnership Coordinator City of Port Colborne

66 Charlotte Street Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C8

Telephone: 905-835-2900 sandypilot@portcolborne.ca

Brick Order Form Submit orders to City Hall \$150.00 \$250.00 \$500.00 1 or 2 lines of Text LETTERING WILL BE

CENTERED

Cash / Gebit / Cheque Payments at City Hall



Division one steel: Roof liner installation ongoing



Pool work is progressing ahead of schedu



Division two steel



Formwork and rebar in place for slabs on grade at entries





CITY HALL NEWS

Port Colborne earns five international marketing awards

Port Colborne has won an unprecedented number of awards from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC). With five 2011 IEDC Excellence in Economic Development Awards, and three Economic Developers of Ontario Awards in 2010, Port Colborne is being noticed at home in Canada, and around the world

Port Colborne received significant recognition receiving three first place finishes and two honourable mentions, at the awards ceremony. Award honours were presented to the City of Port Colborne for the following:

Port Colborne Economic Development News received a first place award in the Newsletters/Newspaper . category. The electronic newsletter was introduced in 2010 and is distributed quarterly to readers throughout Niagara and across the world, keeping them informed on business news and investment opportunities in Port Colborne, Award judges stated that Port Colborne's newsletter "was the best submission out of all population categories" and praised its use of electronic and paper distribution.

2010 Economic Development, Tourism & Marketing Department Annual Report received a first place award in the Annual Report category. The annual report offers an in-depth account of the department's activities and is produced in a high visual-impact format that captures the successes of Port Colborne, Judges stated that the annual report is "subtle and refined, [and] sophisticated for the size of the community."

Carbohydrate Valley Tour received a first place award in the Special Events category. This bio-technology industry tour, held in May 2011, saw over 30 business decision makers, trade commissioners, and government officials from around the world receive a day-long tour of Port Colborne's bio-technology/manufacturing facilities, including Jungbunzlauer and Casco. The tour was well received by all who attended, remarking on how original and informative it was

· Uncharted, Unexpected advertising campaign received honourable mention in the Paid Advertising category. This tourism-marketing campaign, which the city has used since 2010, celebrates the vibrancy of Port Colborne, though focusing on the "uncharted" or "unexpected" tourism attractions, life-style advantages, and variety of culture in Port Colborne.

. Wind Energy Manufacturing Cluster Folder received honourable mention in the Special Purpose Brochure category. This information piece was a joint effort between the City of Port Colborne, the Niagara Economic Development Corporation, Rankin Construction, and Allied Marine and Industrial. It highlights a unique manufacturing opportunity in Port Colborne for the renewable energy sector, using the city's multimodal transportation network, and existing manufacturing supply-chain as competitive advantages.

These prestigious awards signify that Port Colborne is at the forefront of economic development and tourism marketing. The competition attracts submissions from around the globe, and is judged by a panel of experts engaged in economic development and marketing

The City's marketing efforts are really being noticed," said Vance Badawey, Mayor of Port Colborne. "We have undertaken an aggressive marketing strategy, and I am pleased to see the results of these efforts. These international marketing awards confirm the strength of the marketing produced by the City's Economic Development, Tourism & Marketing Department and the feedback from the judging panel helps refine and elevate future efforts by the City.

IEDC is a Washington, DC, based organization with over 4,500 members, that helps economic developers do their job more effectively and raises the profile of the profession. The awards were announced on September 21st at IEDC's annual conference in Charlotte, North Carolina.



(I. to R) Todd Greene, IEDC Board; Stephen Thompson, City of Port Colborne; Denny Coleman, IEDC Chairman present Stephen Thompson with the IEDC's Leadership Achievement Award.

Saturday, December 31

Casco & Friends Kidz New Year's Eve Carnival

At the end of the month, celebrate the upcoming New Year with the Casco & Friends Kids New Year's Eve Carnival from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. December 31 at West Side Arena, followed by a fireworks display.

Skateboard BMX Park Update

On May 31, 2011 City Council approved Community & Corporate Services Report # 2011-13. This report authorized this request for proposal for a design consultant to work with the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council, the Skate Park Group Subcommittee and interested members of the general public to design a permanent concrete skate park suitable for a range of skill levels and a variety of uses, including skateboarding, BMX biking and inline skating

The RFP asked that the Skateboard BMX Park be complete by August 1, 2012 so that the youth of Port Colborne will be able to use the park before the end of next summer. Three companies' submitted proposals and a report will be presented before Council in November to select a company. The Mayors Youth Advisory Council will be starting a fundraising campaign in the New Year. If anyone is interested in more information, or would like to contribute to the fundraising campaign, please contact Gina Murdoch at 90S-B34-166B ext. 236 or ginamurdoch@portcolborne.ca

13th Annual **Sportsfest**

The City of Port Colborne is now in preparation for the 13th Annual Sportsfest. The event filled weekend will kick off Friday February 17, 2012 and activities will run through to Monday February 20, 2012. Sportsfest is a time when

our community comes together, where local businesses and community groups present a sport or activity and the proceeds benefit various charities. This celebration of winter activity promotes healthy active living and teamwork with friendship and fun at a time of the year there is a tendency to be inactive.



The benefits of Sportsfest include: Recreational activities for all ages

- Healthy lifestyle promotion
- . Community groups working together for a common goal
- Opportunity for charity fundraising Showcasing Port Colborne
- We would like to send you a challenge to:
- · Create a new event Encourage participation
- . Help us present this winter event to our community with a donation or sponsorship

Please contact:

Allaina Kane. Special Events Coordinator

at 90S-834-1668 ext. 234 or allainakane@portcolborne.ca with any event related questions; or Sandy J. Pilot, Community Partnership Coordinator at 905-835-2900 ext, 110 or sandypilot@portcolborne.ca with any questions regarding sponsorship opportunities.

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CITY HALL NEWS

orne.ca • Tel: 905-835-2900 • City Hall, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne, ON L3K 3C8 • email: newsletter@portcolborne.ca

Clearing the sidewalks of snow & ice

In Port Colhorne, every Owner or Occupant of a building is responsible for clearing the sidewalks adjoining their property of all snow and ice within 24 hours of the cessation of a snow event. This allows the safe passage of all pedestrians. Please be considerate and offer assistance with snow removal to those neighbours who need a helping hand. If you are renting a property, please make necessary arrangements with your Landlord regarding snow removal.

Those who do not comply may face a fine of \$160.00 or have the removal completed at the Owner's expense. You may view the current Snow and Ice Removal

Bylaw 5383/137/09 here: www.portcolborne.ca/page/bylaws

As always, you may contact the By-law Enforcement Division at 905-835-2901 ext. 210 Be a Good Neighbour, take the time to help.

City of Port Colborne 2012 Dog Licenses are now available for purchase and are due March 15th.

The following discounted rates apply for licenses purchased on or before March 15th:

Un-Neutered/Un-spayed Dogs Neutered/Spayed Dogs (proof required).........\$15.00

After March 15th the regular rates of \$35.00 and \$25.00 apply.

Tags may be purchased at:

- City Hall, 66 Charlotte Street
- The Port Colborne Animal Shelter, 1080 Elm Street Independent Discount Pet Supply, 730 Main Street
- · Pet Valu, Westside Place Plaza, Westside Road

Dog owners who fail to purchase a dog license before the due date are liable for a set fine under Part 1 Provincial Offences Act



CITY OF PORT COLBORNE **PUBLIC NOTICE** NO PARKING INTERFERING WITH SNOW REMOVAL ON ALL HIGHWAYS

OWNERS of vehicles within the City of Port Colborne are hereby reminded of the provisions of the Highway Traffic Act and Bylaw No. 89-2000 which regulates parking and traffic on city roads.

No person shall park or stand a vehicle on a highway in such a manner as to interfere with the movement of traffic or the clearing of snow from the highway. Upon discovery of any vehicle parked or standing in contravention of the above mentioned, an officer

may cause it to be moved or taken to and placed or stored in a suitable place and all costs and charges for removing, care and storage thereof, if any, are a lien upon the vehicle, which may be enforced in the manner provided by the Repair and Storage Liens Act.

Your co-operation in complying with these provisions would be appreciated and would avoid the use of the enforcement provisions of the Bylaw/Act. Vehicle - includes a motor vehicle, trailer, traction engine, farm tractor, road-building machine and any

vehicle drawn, propelled or driven by and kind of power, including muscular power, but does not include a motorized snow vehicle or a street car. Large Motor Vehicle - means a commercial motor vehicle, bus, school bus, boat, boat trailer, or mobile

home. The Operations Department Winter Control Standards are available on the City Website at: http://www.

FREE METERED PARKING FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

portcolborne.ca/page/Winter Control Standards.

To promote and encourage shopping in the downtown core and at the Port Colborne Farmers' Market, motorists may park free at any meter in Port Colborne

for the month of December. PLEASE NOTE: All other parking infractions will be

- strictly enforced.
- · Parking in handicapped zones without a permit
- · Parking in fire routes Parking in prohibited areas (loading zones, corner
- restrictions)
- · Parking blocking a driveway



SNOWBUDDIES

Need your Community Service Hours? Want to be part of an exciting program? Or do you know of someone who has a disability and needs assistance with

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Or apply to have your snow removed by a Snow Buddie

For more information, please call Joanne Ferraccioli





orne,ca • Tel: 905-835-2900 • City Hall, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne, ON L3K 3C8 • email: n

CITY HALL NEWS





Transfer to and from any of the three transit services through Niagara Region Transit for just a \$5 introductory fare.



Niagara Region

www.niagararegion.ca

We are currently accepting applications for our 2012 Summer **Student Lottery!**

2012 Summer Employment

To be considered for a placement you must meet all of the following requirements:

Requirements:

- · Valid Class G or G2 Ontario Drivers License, proof will be requested
- Available for full time work as of April 30, 2012 to September 3, 2012 . Student enrolment for September 2012 (Fall Term), proof will be
- requested Availability to work flexible hours - weekends, statutory holidays. special events

Applications are available at City Hall or can be found on our website under Employment Opportunities at www.portcolborne.ca.

Completed applications must be returned

by January 6, 2012 to Human Resources, City of Port Colborne. 66 Charlotte Street Port Colborne, ON L3K 3C8 E-mail: hr@portcolborne.ca

Personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, C.25 and will be used to determine sultability. We thank all applicants and advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



Regional Transit strengthens links to Port Colborne

Port Colborne is part of Niagara's new regional transit system. Area residents are now linked to the rest of the Niagara region through the Niagara Regional Transit service which started in mid-September. This new integrated transportation system builds on the existing bus route that has linked Port Colborne to Niagara College's Welland Campus and downtown Welland since 2007. Commuters can now access regional buses to St. Catharines or Niagara Falls from Welland's downtown bus terminal.

"This new regional transit service is another tool that we can use to help support Port Colborne businesses," said Economic Development General Manager Stephen Thompson, "We're now better able to link local businesses with a larger notential workforce as well as bring new customers and visitors to our city."

Niagara Regional Transit buses operate Monday to Saturday between Welland, Niagara Falls, and St. Catharines, running hourly between 7:00 am and 8:00 pm. The initial fare for a one-way trip is \$5, with passes and ticket-books becoming available over the coming months. A more detailed schedule, including all stops and transfer points is available online at www.niagararegion.ca/transit.

Port Colborne Transit's connection service to Welland runs six times a day. from Monday to Friday, Through Niagara Regional Transit, Port Colborne is directly connected to over 200,000 jobs within the Niagara region, and the more than 400,000 residents that call Niagara home. More information about Port Colhorne Transit, its connection service to Welland and its city hus routes can be found on-line at www.portcolborne.ca/ page/Port Colborne Transit.



www.niagararegion.ca

■ OAKWOOD SCHOOL: Student can't be charged

Girl made up suspicious man story, NRP say

EDDIE CHAU InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - It was all a Niagara Regional Police are saying

an incident involving a suspicious man approaching a 10-year-old girl while she was on her way to school last Monday was made up. Det. Sgt. Brian Smith of Niagara

Regional Police's District 3 office in Welland said an investigation regarding allegations of the girl being followed as she headed towards Oakwood Public School proved to be

Some parts of the story didn't make sense," Smith said

she was followed by a man while riding her bicycle to school on Monday. The story was similar in nature to two incidents reported by the same girl in late September.

Call 1-866-541-6757

or visit our office at 228 East Main Street, Welland, between

8:30a.m. and 1:00 p.m. only, Monday thru Friday.

In all three instances the oirl stated she was approached by a middleaged man.

Smith said at no time was anyone

Because of the girl's age she cannot be charged, he said "There's nothing we can do (legally)," Smith said. "We just have

to sit her down with her parents and principal to talk to her about it, and to makes sure none of this ever happens again." Smith said police and staff from

Oakwood Public School worked



Deadline is no later than December 16th at 1:00p.m.

Please be advised that all ads require prepayment



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A world of drama at Roselawn with reading from latest novel

NICOLE LE JELINE For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE - When Canadian author Wavne Johnston attempts to accomplish something with his novels. he succeeds spectacularly Since winning the WH Smith/Books in Canada First

Novel award with The Story of

Bobby O'Malley, at age of 27,

the Goulds, N.L. native hasn't slowed down

Johnston has found success all across the board; two of his novels have spent time on bestseller lists, his memoir Baltimore's Mansion won the coveted Charles Taylor prize for creative non-fiction and he's had a motion picture made from his novel The Divine Ryans for which he also wrote the

On Thursday, Nov. 24, the Canadian Authors Series welcomed Johnston to the stage for a reading from his most recent

novel, A World Elsewhere. The story follows protagonist Landish Druken at the end of the 19th century through St. John's, N.C., and the Ivy League school Princeton. While attending Princeton

to become a writer. Druken goes on to befriend classmate George Vanderluyden, son of one of the wealthiest men in America

When the two have a falling out at school. Druken travels back home to St. John's where his father insists his son take up his trade. Druken refuses his father and finds himself cast out and, in an odd turn of events, he adopts an orphaned

The story really begins to unfold when Druken, now with an adoptive son in tow, goes to stay with Vanderluyden in his family's mansion in their time of need. As the gripping tale progresses, it becomes clear to Druken he doesn't know his friend as well as he thinks. His relationships with his friends

and family aren't the only thing on Druken's mind: at the core of his emotional whirlwind is the mysterious suspected murder of a child

People interested in purchasing memberships to the Canadian Authors Series or who wish to attend specific readings may contact and leave a message for Lorraine Bertrand at 905-834-0898.



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PORT COLBORNE

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Black Friday is here

As our neighbours to the south deal with their turkey-induced hangovers, many of them, and a growing number of Canadians, will be partaking in the huge savings of Black Friday.

But when exactly did this shopping extravaganza hegin? According to Time Magazine, the term "Black Friday" was used by newspapers in Philadelphia to describe the cnæy crowds at stores in the city of brotherly love. Prior to that, it was used in reference to a stock-market crisis in 1864.

The term caught on, after

the black" or making a profit on the massive shopping day.

the massive shopping day.

Black Friday has heen an "unofficial retail holiday" in the
United States since the 1990s,
according to Time, and is the sea-

son's higgest shopping day.
The Christmas shopping season traditionally hegins after
American Thanksgiving, and
has done so since the 19th century. Time cites that American
Thanksgiving was traditionally
marked by sales and celebrations, and eventually included

department stores hosting their own parades to mark the occasion – such as the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in

Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City.
Of course, this retail craze has spread to Canada as well, and people north of the 49th can look forward to getting a

jump on their Christmas shopping too.

Within this section, we'll look at the ins and outs of Black Friday, how Canadians can cash in on the savings, what the hot items are for this year, and more.



SUN MEGIA CORPORATION
333 KING STREET EAST,
TORONTO, ONTARIO MSA 3XS

Philippa Gusy ORECTOR, INTEGRATEO MEGIA SOLUTIONS Patricia Booch CO-ORDINATOR, INTEGRATED MEDIA SOLUTIONS Alexandra Colella EOITOR Ryan Murphy

GRAPHIC DESIGNER Rachel Stose
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Lines, deals and craziness

crowds and the thrill of the chase, you're likely one of a growing number of Canadian consumers who circle Black Friday on their calendars as a "must shop" day. And it's no wonder—it's definitely one of the best days of the year to head to the stores or go online to sang deep-discounted items and get holiday shopping done early.

For those who enjoy the cross-horder shopping experience, getting up at 3 a m. to drive south and stand in line to
grab a DVD player for 510 represents the ultimate shopping
experience. White many Canadana who will do just that on
November 25, many others will
opt to shop locally as more and
more Canadian retailers come
on board with their own Back
Friday deals.

Last year, many hopped on hoard with half-price and 60% off sales, and this year, enthusi-

If you love the energy of big crowds and the thrill of the chase, you're likely one of a growing mumber of Canadian consumers who circle Back Fridde on the without the expense of crossing the horder.

A word to the wise: plan ahead and know what you're looking for – Black Friday is not a day to browse. Instead, check out store ads and make a list ahead of time of what you might like to buy at each store you plan to visit. Some sales only last a few hours, and keep in mind that the hottest electronics, for example, will be the first to sell

out, so head to those stores first. If you're dropping purchases off in your car and returning to the stores, put them in the trunk to discourage easy theft – unlike one absent-minded shopper last year who left his newly-purchased 55-inch TV sitting in full view in the back of his pick-pur truck while he went hack into

the mall to shop!

Many other Black Friday shoppers will choose to shop quietly, without the excitement of throngs of shoppers around them, with just a cup of coffee and a laptop computer as they surf the virtual world of online shopping on Cyher Monday, when many Canadian retailers will offer their best sales of the

Whether you plan to plunge into the crowds of Bake Friday shoppers, or go online to take advantage of the many excellent deals that will be offered on Cyber Monday, you've sure to make a good dent in your holiday shopping list. And this year, many shoppers will reward themselves, too. last year, a retail survey showed that 15% of Black Friday shoppers hought at least one item for themselves.

One thing is for certain, however: Black Friday has arrived in Canada, and it's here to stay.



Lines at stores, like the one seen here at Macy's in the U.S., are a common sight on Black Friday. Canadians can expect smaller lines than this north of the border, and also have the added benefit of avoiding the lines and petiting their deals online. Photos: QMF lifes























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Huge savings to be had on Black Friday

OMI Agency

As our neighbours to the south deal with their turkey-induced hangovers, many of them, and a growing number of Canadians, will be partaking in the huge savings of Black Friday But when exactly did this shopping

extravaganza begin?

According to Time Magazine, the term "Black Friday" was used by news-papers in Philadelphia to describe the crazy crowds at stores in the city of brotherly love. Prior to that, it was used in reference to a stock-market crisis in 1864.

The term caught on, after being linked to retailers being "in the black or making a profit on the massive shop-

Black Friday has been an "unofficial retail holiday" in the United States since the 1990s, according to Time, and is the season's biggest shopping day.

The Christmas shopping season traditionally begins after American Thanksgiving, and has done so since the 19th century

Time cites that American Thanksgiving was traditionally marked by sales and celebrations, and eventually included department stores hosting their own parades to mark the occasion - such as the Macy's Thanksgiving Day



Parade in New York City.

Of course, this retail craze has spread to Canada as well, and people north of the 49th can look forward to getting a jump on their Christmas shopping too. Within this section, we'll look at the ins and outs of Black Friday, how

Canadians can cash in on the savings. what the hot items are for this year, and

Top-selling items year to year

This year's version of Black Friday, the biggest shopping day in the U.S., will offer a smorgasbord of door-busting deals to eager buyers ready to spend their dollars both north and south of the border. But in some ways, it will be déià vu all over again. That's because from year-toyear, consumers in the U.S. and Canada tend to put the same items at the very top of their "gotta have it" holiday gift lists: apparel, home electronics and toys. Gift cards, sporting goods and jewelry can also be found on Black Friday shopping lists from

According to surveys by The Neilsen Company, in 2010 a whopping 64% of American shoppers bought apparel on Black Friday. while 60% purchased electronics and 47% snagged popular toys to place under the tree on Christmas morning. This year's share of the consumer pie will likely show similar results, although with an increased online presence by more big retailers, easyto-purchase electronics such as computers, televisions and smartphones may take the lion's share of consumer

Last year, Apple's iPad and iPod touch were two of the hottest commodities and knocked perennial favorites like the Nintendo DS and Sony PlayStation Portable from the spotlight. Other big-ticket items in 2010 included Sony's PlayStation3, Blu-ray, and e-readers. As was the case in 2010, high-definition televisions, video games and laptop computers are expected to be big sellers again this year during Black Friday shopping sprees.

And when it comes to toys, many parents will do just about anything to make sure that the right ones will

Mr. Potato Head kicked off a long list of number one toys that parents grabbed off shelves when it became the first toy advertised on television

In 1982, Cabbage Patch Kids were the must-have item and a mother in Pennsylvania broke her leg in a mad dash at a store to grab one. In 1996, Tickle Me Elmo, a toy based on the character Elmo from the children's television show Sesame Street, caused the same kind of frenzy, as shortages on the shelves caused fights in toy store aisles and scalpers sold them in newspaper classifieds for up to \$2,000.

Last year, Zhu Zhu the Pet Hamster was a blockbuster hit at places like Toys 'R' Us. which will offer its Canadian version of Black Friday again this year, according to Liz MacDonald, vice-president

Unlike Boxing Day, Black Friday gives Canadian consumers a chance to get their holiday shopping done early, and also find the items they most want. "The big gifts are bought

early because they have to be under the tree," says MacDonald. "On Black Friday we'll be offering bigger and better deals on many more premium and top brands in our Canadian stores. Everything is ready and organized, and there will be greater quantities of these deals than ever hefore." And with the Canadian

dollar performing so well against its American counterpart, it appears that Black Friday - so named because it helps boost sales and put retailers "in the black" - could also enjoy its biggest day ever north of the border at malls and online.

- MI Iaffray

WORD ON THE STREET

At 15th largest mall in Canada, Vaughan Mills Shopping Centre

What are you going to shop for on Black Juanita Boccone of Vaughan, with her

two teenage daughters: "Well, I'll be coming here for quite a few things, actually. Some for me and my daughter, like clothes and shoes, but mostly to get good deals on gifts for people on my Christmas list. I could really use a new coat for work, so I'm going to check out the sales at Danier. If the prices are good, I may even pick up a purse there, too, and maybe a leather wallet for my mom. We also heard there are some really amazing deals at The Gan Factory Store, so I'm sure my daughter is going make a plea for a new pair of boots. For gifts, I'm going over to La Senza for some flannel PJ sets and Chapters for some pic ture frames. I'm also going to see what best sellers I can find marked down.

Rick Atkins of Woodbridge, shopping with his teenage son:

"I'm going to check out the deals on home theatre systems. I'm looking for a 3D home theatre projector. If I can't find what I'm looking for at the price I want, I'm going to check out the pricing on their XBox 360. I have an 16-year old son and it would make a great Christmas gift for both of us. At the very least, I'm hoping to come home with a handful of DVDs or video games."

"As a student, I haven't been doing too much shopping lately but occasions like Christmas and Black Friday are a good excuse to hit the mall. Some things I will be looking for are any Apple products, like, an iPad or iPhone, and complete seasons of television shows like Sons of Anarchy and Modern Family. I'm also hoping to pick

up the complete collection of Harry Potter movies. Sandra Minz of Blackstock, mom of three

"I love shopping for great deals. I have to buy stuff anyway so I may as well get it on sale and then I can save money or buy something else I need.

I'll be shopping for Christmas gifts for my kids and some home décor stuff, too. So far, my daughter wants a DSi, the one with the camera and some games to go with it. I'll be looking for Barbie clothes and maybe a doll to go with it. For the boys I'll be looking for cool T-shirts, a new snowboard, a hockey stick and a helmet cam. My eldest is 18 and he hasn't decided what he wants for Christmas vet so I'll probably just go to Best Buy or Future Shop to see what the latest gadget is and do some companson shopping,



Claire Ritenburg of Willowdale, college

- MJ Jaffray

Embracing online shopping

Traditionally an American Thanksgiving pastime for many decades, Black Friday shopping is becoming more well-known in Canada due to our strong dollar, the increasing commitment of Canadian retailers to Black Friday sales, and the popularity and convenience of on-

line shopping. Black Friday takes place on November 25 this year, and continues on what has become known as Cyber Monday, which is the online version of Black Friday, and now the biggest online shopping day of

John Knowles, president of stealthedeal.com, says his website primarily helps consumers

"We like to refer to Cyber Monday as our gifting Monday," he adds. "Food and spas will be two of our biggest categories for shopping, and our theme is that there will be lots of opportunity to purchase items that you would like to give, or especially receive yourself. When members open up their stealthedeal.com email on Cyber Monday, they will be

able to send their wish list to others Derek Szeto is the founder of redflagdeals.com, which is currently riding the wave of millions of Canadian shoppers who are looking for the best online deals available. The site compiles discount information

from stores across Canada, and

shoppers can tap into daily and

growth in online participation by Canadian retailers, and this is partly because they want to keen their customers in Canada

on Black Friday "As well, more stores in the States are recognizing that Canadian consumers are able and willing to buy online and they're offering incentives like free shipping to make it even more accessible. However. Black Friday is still a very American-centric shopping season because they don't have Boxing Day. It will never replace Boxing Day as the biggest sales event in Canada, but it's like a mini-Boxing Day that is certainly convenient for Cana-

dian holiday shopping. In the United States, online shopping is up 24% from 2010, and it is expected that consumers will spend over \$800 million on Black Friday bargains this year.

Electronics stores in Canada are especially tuned in to Black Friday and Cyber Monday because both of these big shopping days represent opportunities to keep Canadians shopping at home with special online offers. "Black Friday and Cyber Monday are good days for us because we know that customers will be going online to shop, especially for the most popular items," says one retailer. "Canadians can definitely expect to see great specials on electronics in-store and, especially online

"The web offers us a much larger storefront because there's no leased or owned space that we have to deal with," he adds. "As Black Friday continues to gain interest from Canadian consumers, our stance is that if they're looking for that kind of experience, we're going to find every way possible to provide it to them. Szeto agrees that electronics

will be top of mind again this year for online Black Friday

"Televisions, computers and other electronics are among the easiest of items to buy online. he says, "There are no sizing issues and it's easy to compare prices for a certain item. We will also see big sales on items like DVDs, music, books, and of course apparel.



"Electronics stores in Canada are especially tuned in to Black Friday and Cyber Monday...."

shop locally and gives smaller retailers a chance to strut their online stuff. Members benefit by finding local deals and the best prices on products and services existed in their community.

huge," he says. "It's been getting bigger and better each of the last five years. People are far and away more comfortable shopping online with their credit cards than they have ever been in the past. There's a new level of comfort and that has combined with a much larger variety of items now available online.

weekly deals, access hundreds of coupons, and get tips on how to save money. It all adds up to they may not have even known increased access to Black Friday deals, both Canadian and *This Cyber Monday will be American, that are available at the click of a mouse without the inconvenience and expense of crossing the border. "One of the reasons Black

Friday is becoming more well known in Canada is because many online sites are now including their own Black Friday specials," he says. "In the past couple of years we've seen huge





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seaweed.

Seaweed taking over Lorraine Bay, council asked for help

VICTORIA GRAY InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE -

Lorraine Bay is a sloppy mess.
Rick Froese, a member of the Lorraine Bay Water Quality Group, came to Port Colborne's council meeting last week to ask the city to do something about it. "We've been successful at improving water quality before and I know we can get funding from the province," Froese said. He told council that phosphorus levels in the Lake Erie bay at the end of Lorraine Rd. are on the rise and are higher than they were in the 1970s when his group was suc-

cessful in lowering levels.

Froese said the phosphorus comes from Wignell, Michener and Beaverdam municipal drains which channel excess water from farmland in the area into the lake. The phosphorus is causing high amounts of seaweed and sludge.

"As a city we must be stewards of the lake," said Ward 3 Coun. Bea Kenny. "If we don't make it clean, we are limiting part of our future."

Although the Drainage Act states the people who use the drains are responsible for it, Mayor Vance Badawey believes it's not just the 2,300 people tapped into it who bear responsibility. "We will all deal with the consequences of the lake, so

we should try to do something, and I'm sure staff will work with the Lorraine Bay water group to find a suitable solution," he said.

City staff and the Lorraine Bay group will investigate processes to deal with the water in the near future and identify costs. Ward 2 Coun. Yvon Doucet hopes staff and the group will want

to find funding to create experimental marshes or ponds to catch the chemical. "I don't know what exactly we can do," he said. "That's why we need moneys to find out what we can and can't do and maybe we can increase water quality incredibly and get rid of some of this



Port students spreading some Christmas cheer

LINDSAY COSTELLO For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE — Students are embracing the spirit of the holidays as they work together to give special offer this seeson.

work together to give special gifts this season. McKay Public School's Me to We Club has been facilitating the collection of various items

that will be used to fill shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, a Samaritan's Purse relief effort that brings cheer and necessities to children in desperate situations throughout the world.

The Me to We Club, which consists of about 15 students who focus on charitable projects and initiatives throughout the school year, encouraged the entire student body to get on board to assist with this project.

"Our goal was one (shoebox) per class," said Susan Clarke, who teaches Grade 8 French

immersion at McKay.

She added the school surpassed that goal and will be contributing about 20

Everything from hygiene items and toys to school supplies is being included in the packages that will be sent

across the world to assist the less-fortunate.

McKay students have also been collecting monetary donations to help cover the cost of shipping their gifts and

will send the boxes through a collection at Port Colborne's Central United Church.

Clarke said the students were excited about the prospect of giving another child a happy holiday, adding the Operation Christmas Child nitiative is a project the school has participated in for the past two years and a cause

n a she thinks the school will cone's tinue to support in the years

> "The spirit of giving is constant at McKay," said Clarke, adding the Me to We Club also collected donations for cancer research in the spirit of Terry Fox and held a Halloween food

"Everybody's giving."



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■ SFAWAY: Simulated collision

Emergency response tested in vessel exercise

InPort News Staff

Thorold - St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corp., along with a number of government departments and emergency responders took part in an emergency exercise recently to test their response to a ship

The Seaway says participants gathered at the Port Robinson Community Centre last week, where leaders co-ordinated their response to a simulated collision between two vessels in the Welland Canal. Throughout the morning, various scenarios

unfolded to test the ability of various stakeholders to effectively respond to challenges in an accurate and timely manner.

The exercise concluded in the afternoon afternoon. Stephen Kwok, Seaway vice-president for the Niagara Region, said that this type of exercise

plays an important role in the Seaway's emergency preparedness.

"We do more than write policy. We roll up our sleeves and work through a series of tests that are quite realistic, to prove the validity of our emergency response plan," said Kwnk.

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■ KING GEORGE PARK: Plans need to be drawn up

Market upgrades sought

VICTORIA GRAY InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE -Market Square and King George Park revitalization is in the hands of the BIA.

Mayor Vance Badawey told Gary Talosi, chair of the community improvement plan coordination committee for the Downtown Port Colborne BIA, his group must draw up plans for the improvements because city staff are simply too busy to take on another task to make it into 2012

budget discussion. "Budget meetings will continue until the end of February or March, but city staff need time to go through it, so mid-December would be good," Badawey said during city council's committee-of-the-whole meeting last week

The BIA board wants Market Square and King George Park to be part of the

city's downtown improvement plan, but they were not included when the city asked for consultants to draw up plans and dollar figures for 2012 budget meetings. The BIA hoped it could work with the city to design changes to the square and park without consultants in order to mini-

mize the cost. Talogi stressed that the RIA thought those areas were more important than the streetscaping the city wants to do first, but BIA members still want that done in the

long run "We want to be part of the process and we don't think it should be left out of the discussion and it will be if we leave it," he said.

Tolosi said the parks bring many people downtown and they need public washrooms, a possible stage, an ice-skating rink and an information centre that would include an LED event calendar in the

Ward 1 Coun. Bill Steele said the Market Square was redone 10 years ago and it seemed like ripping it up again so soon might be rash. "We want to do other things first," he said.

Ward 3 Coun. Bea Kenny worried that other downtown revitalization projects would be put on hold to redo the market square and Ward 4 Coun. Barbara Butters worried about the cost of adding that to consultant fees.

"So we should just leave everything else out of the discussion?" Butters asked. Ward 1 Coun, Dave Elliott

said it's going to take a chunk of change to finish the entire downtown, but it is going to be important to the economic development of Port Colborne

"Don't cast that area aside. We want to with staff to keep this alive and see what we can do," he said.

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He was awarded a certificate of merit by The Mitchener Foundation for his efforts to legalize heroin to ease the suffering of terminal cancer patients. His Gifford-Jones Foundation donated \$500,000 to establish The Gifford Jones Professorship in Pain Control and Palliative Care at The University of Toronto Medical School. During his career he has travelled extensively to interview a number of internationally renowned scientists and researchers.



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